

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 115

By Ramsey

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the Tennessee Firearms Association for its long and meritorious efforts in promoting gun safety and defending the right to keep and bear arms in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Firearms Association (TFA) is a Tennessee not-for-profit corporation formed in 1995 to protect and promote the rights to keep and bear arms as guaranteed by the Tennessee and federal Constitutions and further to educate Tennessee's citizenry on the responsible use, ownership, and carrying of firearms; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Firearms Association holds that every American is endowed with certain unalienable rights, granted to us by our Creator, and made our birthright by the sacrifices of the men and women who founded this state and country; the TFA further holds that the right to keep and bear arms is one of those unalienable rights that our government has no authority to infringe upon or take away; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Tennessee Firearms Association is to defend the inviolable rights of the individual to keep and bear arms and to promote the responsible use, ownership, and carrying of firearms; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Firearms Association is the only full-time organization supporting the right to keep and bear arms specifically for Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Firearms Association has grown from its founding in 1995 by a group of twelve concerned citizens to an effective state-wide organization, with local chapters and members throughout the state's ninety-five counties; and

WHEREAS, many members of the 106th General Assembly are proud members and supporters of the Tennessee Firearms Association; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Firearms Association's members, as well as its experienced Legislative Action Committee, work closely with the General Assembly and the Executive Branch to protect, restore, and secure our rights to keep and bear arms; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Firearms Association has historically played a stable, important, and essential role in the development and evolution of Tennessee's laws regarding civil rights, firearms ownership, and hunting; and

WHEREAS, the membership of the Tennessee Firearms Association has demonstrated repeatedly the effectiveness of a truly bi-partisan grass-roots political movement; and

WHEREAS, throughout all its endeavors, the Tennessee Firearms Association staunchly defends Article I, Section 26 of the Tennessee Constitution, as well as the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Firearms Association benefits greatly from the keen insight, legal expertise, and inspired leadership of one of its founders and its Executive Director, John I. Harris; and,

WHEREAS, by defending the most time-honored principles of liberty and civic responsibility, the Tennessee Firearms Association performs many valuable functions that aid the General Assembly and Tennessee's citizenry and should be commended for leading the battle to protect, restore, and secure our unalienable right to keep and bear arms; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend the Tennessee Firearms Association for its meritorious efforts in promoting safe and responsible firearms ownership and defending the right to keep and bear arms in Tennessee; further salute TFA's Executive Director, John I. Harris, for his astute and dedicated service to the organization and all Tennesseans; and thank these worthy citizens for their ongoing commitment to this noble cause.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.